National Transportation Safety Board
Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	AUSTIN, TX	**Accident Number:**	FTW97LA253
Date & Time:	07/04/1997, 0830 CDT	**Registration:**	N974DC
Aircraft:	Piper PA-31T	**Injuries:**	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 135: Air Taxi & Commuter - Non-scheduled		

Analysis

After an uneventful 1.5 hour on-demand air taxi flight, the pilot made a wheels up landing. He reported that during the flare, he realized that the gear was not extended. He attempted to execute a 'go-around', but was too late as the right propeller contacted the runway surface. Subsequently, the left propeller contacted the runway, and the aircraft 'skipped down the runway', went through grass, and impacted a hangar.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: the pilot's failure to extend the landing gear. A factor relating to the accident was: the pilot's failure to follow the landing checklist.

Findings

Occurrence #1: WHEELS UP LANDING
Phase of Operation: LANDING

Findings
1. (F) CHECKLIST - NOT FOLLOWED - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) GEAR EXTENSION - NOT PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: LANDING

Findings
3. OBJECT - HANGAR/AIRPORT BUILDING

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport	**Age:**	41
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	**Instrument Rating(s):**	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Helicopter	**Instructor Rating(s):**	Helicopter
Flight Time:	2800 hours (Total, all aircraft), 125 hours (Total, this make and model), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	**Registration:**	N974DC
Model/Series:	PA-31T PA-31T	**Engines:**	2 Turbo Prop
Operator:	OCAAS L.L.C.	**Engine Manufacturer:**	P&W
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	On-demand Air Taxi (135)	**Engine Model/Series:**	PT-6A-28
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 135: Air Taxi & Commuter - Non-scheduled		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	**Condition of Light:**	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	AUS, 0 ft msl	**Weather Information Source:**	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 1800 ft agl	**Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:**	8 knots / , 200˚
Temperature:	26˚C	**Visibility**	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	AMARILLO, TX (AMA)	**Destination:**	(AUS)

Airport Information

Airport:	AUSTIN AIRPARK (88R)	**Runway Surface Type:**	Concrete
Runway Used:	18	**Runway Surface Condition:**	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	3000 ft / 40 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	**Aircraft Damage:**	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	**Aircraft Fire:**	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	**Aircraft Explosion:**	None
Latitude, Longitude:			

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	ALEXANDER LEMISHKO	**Adopted Date:**	10/31/1997
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as permanent archival information for the NTSB's investigations. Dockets released prior to June 1, 2009 are publicly available from the NTSB's Record Management Division at pubinq@ntsb.gov, or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.ntsb.gov/pubdms/.		